Application No.: 10/697,086 Docket No.: SHO-0044

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

- 1. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine comprising: variable display means for variably displaying designs in a plurality of rows; and front display means disposed in front of the variable display means, wherein the front display means includes a transparent liquid crystal display panel for displaying images other than said designs through which said variable display means is able to be seen, and a light guiding plate for guiding light emitted from a light source to the entire of said liquid crystal display panel; and in the light guiding plate, transparent areas for ensuring the visibility of the variable display of said variable display means are individually formed corresponding to said plurality of rows.
- 2. (Original) The gaming machine according to claim 1, wherein said variable display means is comprised of one or more rotatable reels each having a reel band thereon, on which said designs are drawn.
- 3. (Original) The reel-based gaming machine according to claim 1, wherein said gaming machine is a slot machine.
- 4. (New) A gaming machine comprising: variable display device for variably displaying designs in a plurality of rows; and front display device disposed in front of the variable display device, wherein the front display device includes a transparent liquid crystal display panel for displaying images other than said designs through which said variable display device is able to be seen; and at least one light source for emitting light to said transparent liquid crystal display panel; and a light guiding plate for guiding light emitted from said light source to the entire of said liquid crystal display panel; and in the light guiding plate, one or more transparent areas for ensuring the visibility of the variable display of said variable display device are formed

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5. (New) The gaming machine according to claim 4, wherein said variable display device is comprised of one or more rotatable reels each having a reel band thereon, on which said designs are drawn.

- 6. (New) The gaming machine according to claim 4, wherein said gaming machine is a slot machine.
- 7. (New) The gaming machine according to claim 4, wherein said variable display device is comprised of one or more reels which said designs are drawn; and said one or more transparent areas are formed corresponding to said each reel.
- 8. (New) The gaming machine according to claim 4, wherein said one or more transparent areas are formed by openings.
  - 9. (New) The gaming machine according to claim 4, further comprising: a transparent antistatic sheet disposed on the rear side of said light guiding plate.